

DRUG UTILIZATION REVIEW (DUR) BOARD APPOINTMENT

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 (OBRA '90) required each state Medicaid Program to establish a Drug Utilization Review (DUR) program for outpatient drugs. The DUR program provides education to physicians, mid-level practitioners and pharmacists. This education is provided through patient profile reviews, population-based interventions, academic detailing visits and a quarterly newsletter.

By Kansas law, the DUR Board is composed of four physicians, four pharmacists and one Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (ARNP) or Physician's Assistant (PA). Each appointment is for three years. The DUR Board is responsible for implementing and operating the DUR Program and making recommendations to DHCF regarding drug therapy issues. The DUR Board meets quarterly, the second Wednesday of the month. All meetings are held in accordance with K.S.A. 75-4319 (Kansas Open Meetings Act). The meetings are held at HP Enterprise Services/Forbes Field, 6700 SW Topeka Blvd., Building 283J; Capital/Cedar Crest Rooms, Topeka, Kansas. The position is reimbursed at \$50 an hour as well as some expenses. All meetings begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude by 2:00 p.m. The next meeting dates are scheduled for July 8, 2015 and October 14, 2015.

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The Kansas State Board of Pharmacy is going to nominate an interested pharmacist to serve on the Drug Utilization Review Program Board. The successful candidate should be licensed in Kansas as a pharmacist and be actively performing or have experience performing Medicaid pharmacy services for a licensed adult care home. Interested parties should submit a cover letter and a CV or resume to the Kansas State Board of Pharmacy at 800 SW Jackson, Ste. 1414, Topeka, KS 66612-1244 or via email at pharmacy@pharmacy.ks.gov. Letters of interest must be submitted by May 30, 2015. If you have any questions about the DUR Board you can visit their website at http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/pharmacy/pharmacy_dur_program.html or contact Kelly Melton.

Health Information Designs (HID) produces five Population-Based Interventions on behalf of the Kansas Medical Assistance Program per year. These interventions are selected by the DUR Board and use comprehensive criteria to identify specific disease state or drug usage issues that affect large populations of patients. A high-impact educational intervention packet is sent to prescribing physicians alerting them of the potential issue, the patients that are affected, and the remedial action that is suggested to improve the quality of care. Since all the physician's patients with the issue are referenced in the intervention letter, a "multiplier effect" is created by impelling change in a large number of patients with a single communication. The two types of population-based interventions utilized by the Kansas Medical Assistance Program are:

- a. Drug use evaluation: Drug usage evaluation interventions will target specific drugs and drug categories where pharmacotherapy is often inappropriate, cost-ineffective, potentially harmful, or of limited clinical benefit.
- b. Disease management: Disease management interventions will target specific disease states with significant opportunities for improving client care.

Available here is a listing of [Intervention Topics](#) and additional information.

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